"When control numbers in the envelope segments are allowed to continue to increment by partner and transaction, you have both uniqueness and time/sequence relativity. Together this practice facilitates tracking, reconciliation and issue resolution."

Jonathan Allen
"Father of EDI"

INTERCHANGE CONTROL NUMBER
ISA13

A control number assigned by the interchange sender, 9 characters

AHCCCS requires that the ISA13 be a unique number by trading partner.

X12.6 Application Control Structure
RELEASE • 004010
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1 Purpose and Scope
This standard defines the structure of business transactions for computer-to-computer interchange. This structure is expressed using a symbolic representation of X12 data independent of the physical representation (e.g., character set encoding). Transformations that affect the physical representation of the data are outside the scope of this standard. The symbolic representation is expressed in terms of both the design and use of X12 structures. This includes the control segments used to bound loops of data segments, transaction sets, and groups of related transaction sets, and the special control segments used to bound transaction sets and groups of transaction sets for security purposes.

This standard does not define any specific transaction set. Data segments are defined in a segment directory; data elements are defined in a data element dictionary; composite data structures are defined in a composite data structure directory; control segments and the binary segment are defined in this standard and fully described in a segment directory.

3.9 Functional Group

The functional group control number, <function_control_number>, in the header and trailer control segments shall be the same for any given group. The number of included transaction sets, <no_included_trans_sets>, is the total number of transaction sets in the group.

In order to provide sufficient discrimination for the acknowledgment process to operate reliably and to ensure that audit trails are unambiguous, the combination of Functional ID Code (GS01), Application Sender's ID (GS02), Application Receiver's ID (GS03), and Functional Group Control Numbers (GS06,GE02) shall by themselves be unique within a reasonably extended time frame whose boundaries shall be defined by trading partner agreement. Because at some point it may be necessary to reuse a sequence of control numbers, the Functional Group Date and Time may serve as an additional discriminant only to differentiate functional group identity over the longest possible time frame.